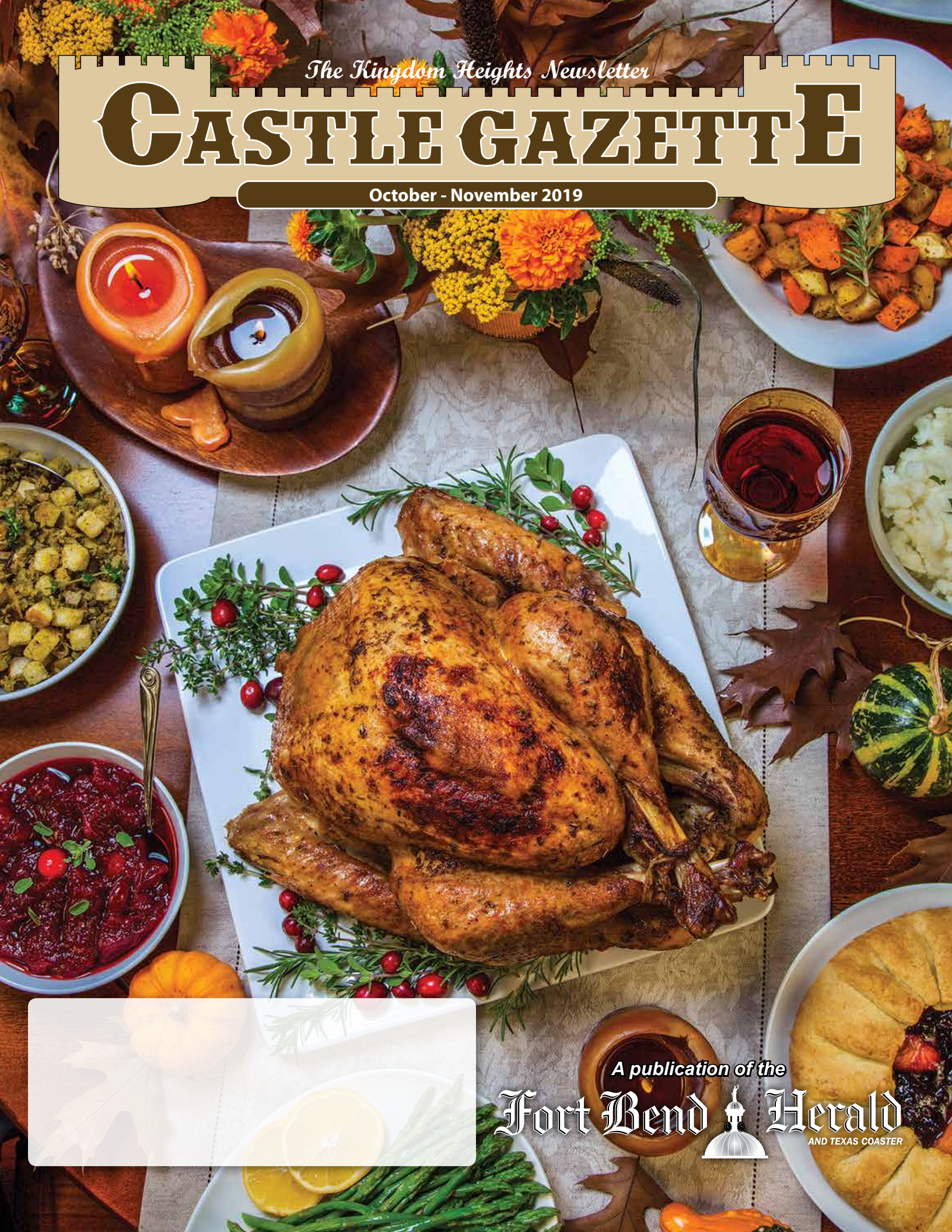


*The Kingdom Heights Newsletter*

# CASTLE GAZETTE

October - November 2019



*A publication of the*

**Fort Bend Herald**  
AND TEXAS COASTER



# REMINDER!

Your liason and representative to the HOA is Rebekah Fix at the Millis Group, she is the "property manager." Her contact info is: rebekahf@millisgroup.com (281) 343-1400. She will send out email notices from time to time. You can sign up for the website and email notifications here: <http://www.kingdomheightscommunityassociation.com/>

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### IMPORTANT INFO:

#### Royal Valley Utilities

For information on your water bill call **281-373-4401**

#### Texas Pride Disposal

Call 281-342-8178

#### Kingdom Heights website

[kingdomheightscommunityassociation.com](http://kingdomheightscommunityassociation.com)

#### Fort Bend LID 20 website

[www.fblid20.com](http://www.fblid20.com)

#### Fitness Center

Open 7 days a week from 5:00 am – 10:00 p.m.

*No one under the age of 18 is permitted in the fitness center.*

#### Kingdom Heights Social Committee

Contact Mary Dimmick at [marydimmick@sbcglobal.net](mailto:marydimmick@sbcglobal.net)

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# Fort Bend Herald

AND TEXAS COASTER

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# Some BBQ for You!

Hello fellow Kingdom Heights residents! Since we all know Carnaby has the best BBQ in the neighborhood I figured why not share one of our secrets! I'm kidding...

But! I know there are a lot of us inside Kingdom Heights, like myself that take a lot of pride in the food that comes off our smokers and grills, so I'd like to make this a consistent contribution to share tips, tricks, and experiences because there's always something new.

For today, there's a beef seasoning concoction I came across a long time ago and have been using it for years because it...is...AWESOME! It works great on red meats and enjoy it best on burgers! So when I mix up a bunch, I make sure it'll last. Here's the chemistry:

One-Time Use		Texas Size
1 tsp	kosher salt	8 tbsp
½ tsp	chili powder	4 tbsp
½ tsp	brown sugar	4 tbsp
½ tsp	garlic powder	4 tbsp
½ tsp	paprika	4 tbsp
¼ tsp	celery seed	2 tbsp
¼ tsp	ground cumin	2 tbsp
1/8 tsp	black pepper	1 tbsp



**Note:** brown sugar can be a pain when combined with other seasonings because of how it clumps. If you're doing the Texas Size because you plan on using this for a while on different recipes, mix all of this together in a large bowl and take the time with a spoon or fork to break up the clumps as much as possible. This will add a little time to preparing but you'll be MUCH happier you took the time to do it!

So try something new this weekend when you go out to cook!

Dennis Rees – [dennisrees@kw.com](mailto:dennisrees@kw.com)

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# Easy 'green' Thanksgiving ideas



**T**hanksgiving is a holiday to give thanks and share special moments with family and friends. While the original Thanksgiving might have taken place during a time when food was sparse, nowadays Thanksgiving often involves excessive amounts of food, with more food ending up in the garbage than in celebrants' bellies.

The United States Department of Agriculture projects that Americans will throw away more than 200 million pounds of edible turkey meat this Thanksgiving holiday. And Thanksgiv-

ing typically ushers in a period of wastefulness, as the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency says American households produce roughly 25 percent more trash between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day than during the rest of the year.

Reducing waste is a worthy goal year-round, but especially so during the holiday season. And accomplishing that goal can be done without sacrificing holiday traditions.

- **Use fine china when serving meals.** Thanksgiving provides an opportunity to serve meals on fine china and use the silverware that has gone unused instead of disposable plates and utensils. In addition to adding a touch of elegance to meals, reusable china and silverware is less wasteful than paper plates and plastic utensils. Cloth napkins and other table linens are also more eco-friendly than paper napkins.

- **Decorate using natural items.** Scour the great outdoors for all-natural centerpiece materials or other items that can be turned into wreaths and garlands. Vases filled with pine cones and acorns make for beautiful, inexpensive and festive decorations.

- **Shop locally and organically.** When shopping for Thanksgiving dinner, choose local produce, poultry and grains whenever possible. Resist the urge to buy more than you need as well. Skip some of the less-popular dishes that are used only to make the table seem full. Buy a small turkey or think about only serving turkey breasts, which tend to be the most popular cuts of the bird. Use reusable shopping bags to carry items home and reduce waste even further.

**HALLOWEEN EVENT**  
Food Trucks, Pumpkin  
Bounce House, Hayrides,  
Costume Contests (All Ages)  
Trunk or Treat, and  
**FREE PUMPKINS**  
*(while they last)!*  
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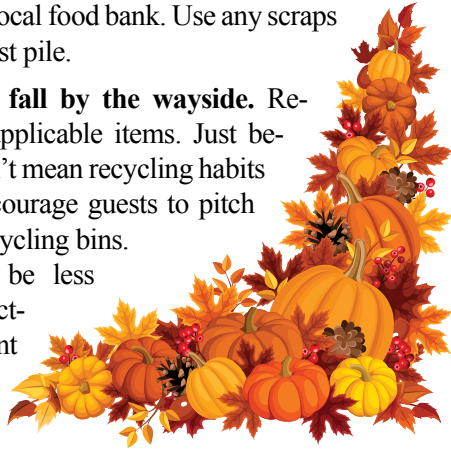
● **Light candles and reduce energy consumption.** During the meal, eat by candlelight and turn off lights in other areas of the home that are not in use. Rather than turning on the television, take the party outdoors and play a game of football on the front lawn.

● **Have a local Thanksgiving.** Start a new tradition and invite nearby friends and family over for the holiday instead of traveling long distances. According to Use Less Stuff, a resource for eco-conscious men and women, if each family reduced gasoline consumption by one gallon (roughly 20 miles), they could reduce greenhouse gas emissions by one million tons.

● **Send home the leftovers.** Send each guest home with some leftovers if you have any. This way the refrigerator isn't left full of items that will end up uneaten. Otherwise, donate uncooked food to a local food bank. Use any scraps of vegetables in a compost pile.

● **Don't let recycling fall by the wayside.** Remember to recycle all applicable items. Just because it's a holiday doesn't mean recycling habits should be forgotten. Encourage guests to pitch in by clearly marking recycling bins.

Thanksgiving can be less wasteful without detracting from the enjoyment and true meaning of the holiday.



# The RICHMOND TEXAS Bucket List

**SEE AN OUTDOOR FILM AT MOVIES ON MORTON.**  
Enjoy an outdoor movie on the First Friday of the month while taking in the backdrop of historic Morton Street.

**HEAR LIVE MUSIC**  
Experience a live show at the Lone Star Saloon or during a festival at the beautiful Wessendorff Park.

**EAT A ONE-OF-A-KIND MEAL**  
Experience a one-of-a-kind meal at local favorites including Sandy McGee's, Larry's Original Mexican Restaurant, Trough Juice Bar, Joseph's Coffee Shop, Buena Vista, Umwine'd Wine & Cheese Lounge, Blockhouse Coffee and Kitchen, or a farm-to-table dinner at The Guild.

**SHOP LOCAL**  
Visit local boutiques and shops including Dapple Grey Co. Boutique, Treasure Hunters, 310 Gallery, Backwater Boutique, Rustic Closet, The Kombucha Company, Mercy Goods, Jay-Wood Trading Co., Studio of Richmond, and Vintage Hope.

**EXPERIENCE THE HISTORY OF RICHMOND**  
Tour the Fort Bend History Museum, visit the grave of Mirabeau B. Lamar in the historic Morton Cemetery, take a ghost tour with History & Haunts of Richmond, or visit Blockhouse Coffee & Kitchen to pick up a walking map of the historic district.

**Park and Stroll at 402 Morton Street**  
Strolling through the streets of downtown Richmond is an attraction in and of itself. Free parking is available throughout the downtown area and Richmond's City Hall provides a central parking location for visitors. City Hall is located at 402 Morton Street.

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# These treats are staples of Halloween celebrations

Kids can't celebrate Halloween without asking neighbors "Trick or treat?" Pranks might be part and parcel of Halloween, but treats are what many goblins and ghouls anticipate the most come October 31.

Youngsters are not the only ones who look forward to the sweets that are synonymous with Halloween. Adults also indulge their sweet teeth on Halloween. The following are some treats that simply must be part of all the fiendish festivities this Halloween.

**Candy:** The National Confectioners Association estimated that, in 2018, Halloween would generate \$9 billion in candy sales. In fact, the NCA notes that Halloween, despite being just a single day, accounts for about 8 percent of annual confectionary sales.



To say that trick-or-treaters and other Halloween celebrants would be disappointed if candy was not part of Halloween celebrations would be an understatement.

**Chocolate:** Chocolate often finds its way into candy bars, but chocolate also can stand on its own, especially on Halloween. In its U.S. Food Market Outlook 2018 report, the market research firm Packaged Facts found that the Halloween season is the fourth most lucrative season of the year for chocolate sales. Celebrants who don't have any chocolate to offer this Halloween may find themselves on the receiving end of a few tricks.



**Candied apples:** Each Halloween, candied apples reappear.

Though rarely seen throughout the rest of the year, candied apples are perhaps an ideal treat for Halloween, which occurs right in the heart of apple-picking season.



**Pumpkin seeds:** Carving jack-o'-lanterns is a beloved Halloween tradition in many households. If yours is a home where pumpkin seeds are typically discarded, this year you can consider making better use of them by eating them. Pumpkin seeds are great



sources of fiber, and the World Health Organization notes that they have long been a great source of zinc. Roasted pumpkin seeds make for a great and nutritious snack when turning ordinary pumpkins into scary jack-o'-lanterns.

Food is a big part of Halloween, and certain items simply must be a part of the culinary experience on this beloved holiday.



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# How to get Black Friday deals

**A**s Thanksgiving draws near, retailers begin dropping hints about their Black Friday promotions. Some stores have begun to open their doors on Thanksgiving evening, after many people have filled up on turkey and trimmings.

Smart shoppers recognize that Black Friday is a great time to find deals on holiday gifts, and following these tips can help shoppers save even more.

■ **Begin researching early.** Since many retailers begin posting information online or send out advertisements about sale items far in advance of Black Friday, shoppers should pay attention to each retailer's offerings so they can better coordinate their shopping efforts. Cross-reference prices against other stores, including both online retailers and traditional brick-and-mortar stores.

■ **Establish a shopping budget.** It's tempting to go out shopping with credit cards blazing, but that may lead to overspending. Determine what you can afford and set a budget for Black Friday shopping. Establishing a budget can help you avoid impulse purchases as well.

■ **Look for extra discounts.** The early bird often gets the worm, but late shoppers also may benefit on Black Friday. Determine which times of the day stores are offering their biggest discounts. Doorbuster sales tend to start very early, but

such sales might be irrelevant if only items you do not need are being discounted. Determine if there are any additional sales that extend throughout the day.

■ **Divide and conquer.** Split up the shopping responsibilities so you and your family can get your shopping done quickly. The divide and conquer approach allows you to cover more ground and ensures someone will be there to claim the best deals from various retailers.

■ **Dress comfortably for shopping.** Malls and department stores may be crowded and can be warm, so dress in layers so you can remove clothing if you get hot. You'll probably do a good deal of walking on Black Friday, so make sure to wear comfortable shoes.

■ **Have discount codes at the ready.** Many retailers now use digital apps or emails to keep in touch with customers. These same apps may enable smartphone users to search for discount codes and other coupons. Keep digital coupons handy so they can be presented quickly at checkout.

Black Friday is one of the best days of the year to land steep discounts on a variety of merchandise and services. Make the shopping trip even more successful this time around.



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